

Form 10-300  
(July 1969)UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Maryland	
COUNTY: Queen Anne's	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME	
COMMON: Bloomingdale	
AND/OR HISTORIC: Mount Mill	

2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: U. S. Route 50 at Bloomingdale Road (east corner)			
CITY OR TOWN: Queenstown			
STATE Maryland	CODE 24	COUNTY: Queen Anne's	CODE 035

3. CLASSIFICATION			
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY			
OWNER'S NAME: Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Shawn			
STREET AND NUMBER: Bloomingdale			
CITY OR TOWN: Queenstown	STATE: Maryland	CODE: 24	

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION			
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Queen Anne's County Courthouse			
STREET AND NUMBER: Courthouse Square			
CITY OR TOWN: Centreville	STATE: Maryland	CODE: 24	

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS			
TITLE OF SURVEY: Maryland Register of Historic Sites and Landmarks			
DATE OF SURVEY: 1969 <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local			
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Maryland Historical Trust			
STREET AND NUMBER: 94 College Avenue			
CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis	STATE: Maryland	CODE: 24	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Maryland

COUNTY: Queen Anne's

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER    DATE

7. DESCRIPTION	
CONDITION	<div>(Check One)</div> <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	<div>(Check One)</div> <input type="checkbox"/> Altered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered
<div>(Check One)</div> <input type="checkbox"/> Moved <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE	
<p>Bloomingdale, formerly called Mount Mill, is located on U. S. Route 50 and 301, about three miles southeast of Queenstown, Maryland. It stands on a rise of ground .35 miles northeast of Route 50, through a long allée of Poplar trees.</p> <p>It is a Federal style, two-and-one-half story, brick mansion measuring approximately fifty-one feet long by thirty-seven feet deep, not including a brick hyphen and wing on the southeast, reputed to be older than the main block, but which is not mentioned in the Federal Direct Tax of 1798.</p> <p>The part of the house important architecturally was built by Thomas Johnnings Seth in 1792, for which date there is a date brick in the northwest wall. Its walls are laid in Flemish bond above a quarter-round molded water table, with narrow, white, convex mortar joints. Horizontal iron bars are set in the masonry as a grille in front of each of the basement windows. The main facade has a center door and four windows at each level. The north facade has three windows on the second story and two windows with a central door on the first story.</p> <p>Both entrance doors are alike, each having a semicircular fanlight with ray-like lead muntins with sunburst and swags. Flanking each central door are smaller detached sidelights with three leaded circles with scrolls. All windows of the first story have six-over-nine sash, while those of the second story have six-over-six sash. All windows have panes measuring 14" x 17", louvered shutters, and wide flat-arch lintels of rubbed brick.</p> <p>The building has a low pitch, hip roof, with a dormer in each end. The ridge of the dormer in each end is a continuation of the ridge, NW/SE, of the main roof. The upper sash of the dormers are arched and are surrounded by molded trim, each with a keystone. Above the keystone is a full pediment with dentil trim. Northeast of the dormers are two large chimneys servicing fireplaces on interior walls.</p> <p>A two-story semi-octagonal, five-plane portico occupies the central bay of the main facade (southwest). From evidence found in the brickwork around the second-story portico door, the door is an elongation of an original window. The portico cornice has only a single course of small dentils, whereas the main cornice has courses of larger dentils, and shaped modillions. Square, chamfered columns with plain caps are set at each angle of the portico. They are connected by a plain balustrade, except where the steps rise from the ground. The sides of the house are three bays deep, the northern bays being doors; one to the wing and the other</p>	

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Maryland	
COUNTY Queen Anne's	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

Bloomingdale

## #7. DESCRIPTION continued

to the northwest porch. The ceiling of this porch is a 'T' shaped barrel vault, continuing from over the fanlight above the door. The roof is supported on eight square, recessed, panel columns. A row of dentils decorate the simple cornice. It is above this roof that the date brick, 1792, is placed. A porch at the northeast entrance is very similar to the northwest porch, both having similar posts and trim, and unusual seats, an integral part of the balustrade.

The wing and hyphen are built of brick and covered with a thin coat of concrete stucco. The gable facade of the southwest wing has two windows on the first story and a Palladian style window above. A dentil cornice is used in the gable end and at the eaves. Near the center of this section is a chimney east of which is a brick lean-to, formerly the kitchen.

The entrance treatment of the hyphen is similar to the main door, but of crude workmanship. The door itself is protected by a hood supported on wrought iron brackets. Above the hood are two arched, recessed panels. The roof slopes northeast to become one story. Inside the wing there is a kitchen and dining room. The hyphen contains a hall and storage rooms.

The interior of the main building contains a central hall measuring thirteen feet wide and thirty-five feet long with a stair hall located in the north corner. The chair rail, plaster cornice and trim are very simple. An elliptical arch separates the stair hall from the central hall. The arch soffit has a plaster medallion as an ornamented place for a lighting fixture.

The stair is delicate, having a scrolled lower step, two square balusters on each step and a molded hand rail with matching half rail applied to the wall. The hand rail rises and continues across the tops of the turned newels. Step ends have two scrolls, a large one on the outer edge and smaller one on the inner side. There is a door to the cellar staircase and at right angles six recessed panels along the triangular vertical wall beneath the staircase.

The west corner room is the important reception room with an important-to-the-house fireplace which is surrounded by a mantelpiece with dentils separated by circles with holes, and two pairs of reeded colonettes, the capitals of which contain

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Maryland	
COUNTY Queen Anne's	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

Bloomingdale

#7. DESCRIPTION continued

three small recessed arches. An oval in the center of the frieze is edged with beads; there is a marble hearth. On each side of the mantel there is a semicircular, arched alcove having reeded pilasters, and trimmed with an ogee keystone. Cabinets are in the side walls of the alcoves.

The south corner room is similar to the west corner room, but is three feet shorter. Its mantel has two pairs of reeded colonettes, a course of dentils separated by diamonds, each with a drill hole in the center. The edge of the mantel shelf has a row of beads. The alcoves have fluted pilasters and plain trim with keystones. There are cabinets in the side walls of the alcoves. The window trim for all the major windows continues to the floor. Beneath the sill are recessed panels; there are paneled shutters which fold into the jambs.

In the east corner of the building is a small room with simple trim. Beneath the chair rail are narrow boards with chamfered edges forming a paneled dado. Southeast of the fireplace is a door to the south corner room; to the northwest is a cabinet. Neither this room nor the one above it has a cornice.

The second floor hall has a plaster cornice and simple chair rail. A stairway rises to the attic on the northeast wall, cutting across the center window. The southwest end of the hall is a small room opening onto the second story of the semi-octagonal portico.

The east corner bedroom has cupboards flanking the fireplace, while each of the other rooms have full closets in that position. The south corner bedroom mantel has croisettes, fluted blocks supporting the shelf, and a dentil course beneath.

Two crudely finished rooms, each lighted by a single, larger dormer, are located off the attic hallway. There are three storage areas in the attic.

A small brick outbuilding and a frame smokehouse are located behind the kitchen wing. The house is surrounded by many large trees. A cluster of large American boxwood north of the house marks the Harris family burial plot. Over four hundred acres of the farm are under cultivation; the remaining acres are woodland, lawn and farm yards.

## SIGNIFICANCE

## PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- ☐ Pre-Columbian;      ☐ 16th Century      ☒ 18th Century      ☐ 20th Century  
☐ 15th Century      ☐ 17th Century      ☒ 19th Century

## SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1792

## AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                      |   |  |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education   | <input type="checkbox"/> Political                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy            | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry    | <input type="checkbox"/> Science                        | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention   | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture                      | _____  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature  | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater                        | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Military    | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation                 | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music       |   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            |                                      |   |  |

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Bloomingdale's importance is primarily its architectural merit; secondarily its builder and subsequent owners. It represents the architectural transition from an English Georgian building style to an American style, which is evident in the interior woodwork. It also represents the tangible achievement of the Seth family after owning the land for over one hundred years (1685-1808).

Upon the death of Thomas Johnings Seth in 1808, James Butcher was appointed the Trustee for his estate. James Butcher was acting Governor in 1809 when the legislature convened to elect Edward Lloyd to replace Governor Robert Wricht, who had resigned earlier that year.

The Harris sisters, socially prominent in Baltimore City and Queen Anne's County, owned Bloomingdale between 1835 and 1880, and changed the name from "Mount Mill." Upon Miss Sallie Harris' death in 1880, the mansion and farm were willed to her cousin, Severn Teakle Wallis (1816-1894). Mr. Wallis was a lawyer in Baltimore and was regarded as the leading influence on the Maryland Bar for over fifty years. His ability won him membership in the Royal Academy of History of Madrid, Spain; and made him a fellow in the Royal Society of Northern Antiquities of Copenhagen, Denmark. President James Buchanan offered him the post of District Attorney in 1857, a position he refused. He was involved in active protest against the passage of Civil War troops through the city of Baltimore, an action which brought about his arrest and fourteen months imprisonment.

He was a co-founder of the Maryland Historical Society in 1844 as well as a charter member of the Board of Trustees of the Peabody Institute in 1880. He served in the capacity of President of each of these organizations.

For the first half of the twentieth century, the property was owned by the Dudley family, and the house was tenanted. It was sold in 1952 to the present (1971) owners.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

## 9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Recorders: Michael Bourne, Maryland Historical Trust,  
94 College Avenue, Annapolis, Maryland; Beth M. Grosvenor,  
Maryland Historical Trust.

"Bloomingdale, or Mount Mill, Queen Anne's County." Maryland  
Historical Magazine. Vol. L. (September 1955), 203-218.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

## 10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES  
DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY

CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds
NW	38° 58' 34.0	76° 07' 09.3
NE	38° 58' 34.0	76° 06' 56.7
SE	38° 58' 24.0	76° 06' 56.7
SW	38° 58' 24.0	76° 07' 09.3

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES  
DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY  
OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES

LATITUDE	LONGITUDE
Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds
° ' "	° ' "

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 25 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

## 11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:

Mrs. Preston Parish, Keeper of the Maryland Register

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust

DATE

Feb. 3, 1972

STREET AND NUMBER:

94 College Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland

CODE

24

## 12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

## NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☒ Local ☐

Name

*Orlando Ridout IV*  
Orlando Ridout IV

Title

State Liaison Officer  
for Maryland

Date

February 4, 1972

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Maryland	
COUNTY Queen Anne's	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

Bloomingdale

#9. REFERENCES continued

Buchholz, Heinrich E. Governors of Maryland from the Revolution to the Year 1908. 2nd ed. Baltimore: Williams and Wilkins, 1908.

Dictionary of American Biography. Vol. XIX, 385. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1943.

Earle, Swepson. Maryland's Colonial Eastern Shore. Baltimore: Munder-Thomsen Press, 1916.

Emory, Frederic. Queen Anne's County, Maryland. Baltimore: Maryland Historical Society, 1950.

Footner, Hulbert. Maryland Main and Eastern Shore. New York: D. Appleton-Century Company, 1942.

Forman, H. Chandlee. Early Manor and Plantation Houses of Maryland. Easton, Maryland: the author, 1934.

Hammond, John Martin. Colonial Mansions of Maryland and Delaware. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott, 1914.

Scarborough, Katherine. Homes of the Cavaliers. New York: Macmillan, 1930.

Robertson, John W. Land of the Evergreen. Onancock, Virginia: The Eastern Shore News, 1963.

Works Progress Administration. Maryland A Guide to the Old Line State. New York: Oxford, 1940..

WYE MILLS QUADRANGLE (MARYLAND)  
USGS 7.5 minute map  
scale 1: 24,000  
1942

QA-4

lat. 38° 58' 34.0"  
long. 76° 07' 09.3"

lat. 38° 58' 34.0"  
long. 76° 06' 56.7"

BLOOMINGDALE

lat. 38° 58' 24.0"  
long. 76° 06' 56.7"

lat. 38° 58' 24.0"  
long. 76° 07' 09.3"



RIVER



## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Mount Mill

AND/OR COMMON

Bloomingdale

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

U.S. Route 50 at Bloomingdale Road (east corner)

CITY, TOWN

Queenstown

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Queen Anne's

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

—DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

—STRUCTURE

—SITE

—OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

—PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

—BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

—IN PROCESS

—BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED

—UNOCCUPIED

—WORK IN PROGRESS

## ACCESSIBLE

—YES: RESTRICTED

—YES: UNRESTRICTED

☒ NO

## PRESENT USE

☒ AGRICULTURE

—COMMERCIAL

—EDUCATIONAL

—ENTERTAINMENT

—GOVERNMENT

—INDUSTRIAL

—MILITARY

—MUSEUM

—PARK

☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

—RELIGIOUS

—SCIENTIFIC

—TRANSPORTATION

—OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Shawn

Telephone #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Bloomingdale

CITY, TOWN

Queenstown

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21658

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Queen Anne's County Courthouse

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Courthouse Square

CITY, TOWN

Centreville

STATE

Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Maryland Register of Historic Sites and Landmarks

DATE

1969

—FEDERAL ☒ STATE —COUNTY —LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR

SURVEY RECORDS Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland

## 7 DESCRIPTION

QA-4

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		DATE _____

### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Bloomingdale, formerly called Mount Mill, is located on U.S. Route 50 and 301, about three miles southeast of Queenstown, Maryland. It stands on a rise of ground .35 miles northeast of Route 50, through a long allee of Poplar trees.

It is a Federal style, two-and-one-half story, brick mansion measuring approximately fifty-one feet long by thirty-seven feet deep, not including a brick hyphen and wing on the southeast, reputed to be older than the main block, but which is not mentioned in the Federal Direct Tax of 1798.

The part of the house important architecturally was built by Thomas Johnings Seth in 1792, for which date there is a date brick in the northwest wall. Its walls are laid in Flemish bond above a quarter-round molded water table, with narrow, white, convex mortar joints. Horizontal iron bars are set in the masonry as a grille in front of each of the basement windows. The main facade has a center door and four windows at each level. The north facade has three windows on the second story and two windows with a central door on the first story.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.1 DESCRIPTION

Both entrance doors are alike, each having a semi-circular fanlight with ray-like lead muntins with sunburst and swags. Flanking each central door are smaller detached sidelights with three leaded circles with scrolls. All windows of the first story have six-over-nine sash, while those of the second story have six-over-six sash. All windows have panes measuring 14" x 17", louvered shutters, and wide flat-arch lintels of rubbed brick.

The building has a low pitch, hip roof, with a dormer in each end. The ridge of the dormer in each end is a continuation of the ridge, NW/SE, of the main roof. The upper sash of the dormers are arched and are surrounded by molded trim, each with a keystone. Above the keystone is a full pediment with dentil trim. Northeast of the dormers are two large chimneys servicing fireplaces on interior walls.

A two-story semi-octagonal, five-plane portico occupies the central bay of the main facade (southwest). From evidence found in the brickwork around the second-story portico door, the door is an elongation of an original window. The portico cornice has only a single course of small dentils, whereas the main cornice has courses of larger dentils, and shaped modillions. Square, chamfered columns with plain caps are set at

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.2 DESCRIPTION

each angle of the portico. They are connected by a plain balustrade, except where the steps rise from the ground. The sides of the house are three bays deep, the northern bays being doors; one to the wing and the other to the northwest porch. The ceiling of this porch is a 'T' shaped barrelvault, continuing from over the fanlight above the door. The roof is supported on eight square, recessed, panel columns. A row of dentils decorate the simple cornice. It is above this roof that the date brick, 1792, is placed. A porch at the northeast entrance is very similar to the northwest porch, both having similar posts and trim, and unusual seats, an integral part of the balustrade.

The wing and hyphen are built of brick and covered with a thin coat of concrete stucco. The gable facade of the southwest wing has two windows on the first story and a Palladian style window above. A dentil cornice is used in the gable end and at the eaves. Near the center of this section is a chimney east of which is a brick leanto, formerly the kitchen.

The entrance treatment of the hyphen is similar to the main door, but of crude workmanship. The door itself is protected by a hood supported on wrought iron brackets. Above the hood are two arched, recessed panels. The roof slopes northeast to become one story.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.3 DESCRIPTION

Inside the wing there is a kitchen and dining room.

The hyphen contains a hall and storage rooms.

The interior of the main building contains a central hall measuring thirteen feet wide and thirty-five feet long with a stair hall located in the north corner. The chair rail, plaster cornice and trim are very simple. An elliptical arch separates the stair hall from the central hall. The arch soffit has a plaster medallion as an ornamented place for a lighting fixture.

The stair is delicate, having a scrolled lower step, two square balusters on each step and a molded hand rail with matching half rail applied to the wall. The hand rail rises and continues across the tops of the turned newels. Step ends have two scrolls, a large one on the outer edge and smaller one on the inner side. There is a door to the cellar staircase and at right angles six recessed panels along the triangular vertical wall beneath the staircase.

The west corner room is the important reception room with an important-to-the-house fireplace which is surrounded by a mantelpiece with dentils separated by circles with holes, and two pairs of reeded colonettes, the capitals of which contain three small recessed arches. An oval in the center of the frieze is edged with beads; there is a marble hearth. On each side of the mantel there

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.4 DESCRIPTION

is a semicircular, arched alcove having reeded pilasters, and trimmed with an ogee keystone. Cabinets are in the side walls of the alcoves.

The south corner room is similar to the west corner room, but is three feet shorter. Its mantel has two pairs of reeded colonettes, a course of dentils separated by diamonds, each with a drill hole in the center. The edge of the mantel shelf has a row of beads. The alcoves have fluted pilasters and plain trim with keystones. There are cabinets in the side walls of the alcoves. The window trim for all the major windows continues to the floor. Beneath the sill are recessed panels; there are paneled shutters which fold into the jambs.

In the east corner of the building is a small room with simple trim. Beneath the chair rail are narrow boards with champhered edges forming a paneled dado. Southeast of the fireplace is a door to the south corner room; to the northwest is a cabinet. Neither this room nor the one above it has a cornice.

The second floor hall has a plaster cornice and simple chair rail. A stairway rises to the attic on the northeast wall, cutting across the center window. The southwest end of the hall is a small room opening onto the second story of the semi-octagonal portico.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.5 DESCRIPTION

The east corner bedroom has cupboards flanking the fireplace, while each of the other rooms have full closets in that position. The south corner bedroom mantel has croisettes, fluted blocks supporting the shelf, and a dentil course beneath.

Two crudely finished rooms, each lighted by a single, larger dormer, are located off the attic hallway. There are three storage areas in the attic.

A small brick outbuilding and a frame smokehouse are located behind the kitchen wing. The house is surrounded by many large trees. A cluster of large American boxwood north of the house marks the Harris family burial plot. Over four hundred acres of the farm are under cultivation; the remaining acres are woodland, lawn and farm yards.

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1792

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Bloomingdale's importance is primarily its architectural merit; secondarily its builder and subsequent owners. It represents the architectural transition from an English Georgian building style to an American style, which is evident in the interior woodwork. It also represents the tangible achievement of the Seth family after owning the land for over one hundred years (1685-1808).

Upon the death of Thomas Johnnings Seth in 1808, James Butcher was appointed the Trustee for his estate. James Butcher was acting Governor in 1809 when the legislature convened to elect Edward Lloyd to replace Governor Robert Wright, who had resigned earlier that year.

The Harris sisters, socially prominent in Baltimore City and Queen Anne's County, owned Bloomingdale between 1835 and 1880, and changed the name from "Mount Mill". Upon Miss Sallie Harris' death in 1880, the mansion and farm were

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY



## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 8.1 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

willed to her cousin, Severn Teakle Wallis (1816-1894). Mr. Wallis was a lawyer in Baltimore and was regarded as the leading influence on the Maryland Bar for over fifty years. His ability won him membership in the Royal Academy of History of Madrid, Spain; and made him a fellow in the Royal Society of Northern Antiquities of Copenhagen, Denmark. President James Buchanan offered him the post of District Attorney in 1857, a position he refused. He was involved in active protest against the passage of Civil War troops through the city of Baltimore, an action which brought about his arrest and fourteen months imprisonment.

He was a co-founder of the Maryland Historical Society in 1844 as well as a charter member of the Board of Trustees of the Peabody Institute in 1880. He served in the capacity of President of each of these organizations.

For the first half of the twentieth century, the property was owned by the Dudley family, and the house was tenanted. It was sold in 1952 to the present (1971) owners.

QA-4

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Mrs. Preston Parish, Keeper of the Maryland Register

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust

DATE

2/3/72

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 9.1 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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## ADDENDUM

**QA-4**  
**Bloomingtondale**  
**Queen Anne's County**

### **Geographical Data** **Continuation Sheet 10.1**

Verbal boundary description and justification:

Bloomingtondale, a seventeenth- and eighteenth-century estate, was listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) on October 18, 1972. At the time of its listing, standards of documentation were not so stringent as they currently are. There was, for example, no place on the NRHP form for a description of or justification for the boundaries of the property being listed. Twenty-five acres were included in the NRHP nomination, and the boundary drawn at the time of nomination was simply a square that encompassed the main house and its outbuildings. The primary emphasis in 1972 was on the architectural qualities of the main house; secondarily, some interest was expressed in the outbuildings. No attention was given in 1972 to the setting of the house or its landscape architecture.

Because most of the 640 acres that make up the estate are agricultural fields, not all need to be included within the NRHP boundary that protects the property. Nevertheless, approximately 17 additional acres that were not included in the original nomination are devoted to an allee that extends approximately one-half mile from U. S. Route 50 up to the main house. Lining the allee on each side are tulip poplar trees, many of which appear to date to the late eighteenth, or early nineteenth century. Outside the rows of tulip poplars on each side is a second row of maple trees that date to the 1940s and are now more than 50 years of age. Although some of the original tulip poplars have been replaced the design intent of the allee is readily apparent in those that remain. Pairs of brick gateposts are located at each end of the allee, further defining the allee's introduction to the mansion.

An allee was a feature of French formal architectural landscape design of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. It was a straight passageway between trees that was an extension of the view and often ended in a focal point, such as a garden structure--a temple or gazebo (Newton 1971:153-181, 199-202). Allees were popular features of gardens in colonial America, being part of the landscape design of some of the most prominent Tidewater plantations in Virginia and Maryland (Martin 1991:xxii, 119, 126). At one end, the allee at Bloomingtondale ends in the view of the mansion, a symmetrical Georgian-style building. Looking south from the house, the allee appears to extend into the distance. The allee was clearly a conscious design decision meant to enhance the landscape design and should be included within the boundaries of the property.

The revised boundaries will extend approximately one-half mile from the house to U. S. Route 50 and will include both rows of tulip poplar and maple trees lining each side of the allee and the paired gateposts at each end of the allee.

Prepared by: Ms. Alice Crampton, Senior Historian, Parsons Engineering Science, Inc, January 27, 1998.  
Reformatted by Rita M. Suffness, Senior Architectural Historian, MD SHA, December 7, 1999.

QA-4

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 10 Page 2

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Bloomingtondale, a seventeenth- and eighteenth-century estate, was listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) on October 18, 1972. At the time of its listing, standards of documentation were not so stringent as they currently are. There was, for example, no place on the NRHP form for a description of or justification for the boundaries of the property being listed. Twenty-five acres were included in the NRHP nomination, and the boundary drawn at the time of nomination was simply a square that encompassed the main house and its outbuildings. The primary emphasis in 1972 was on the architectural qualities of the main house; secondarily, some interest was expressed in the outbuildings. No attention was given in 1972 to the setting of the house or its landscape architecture.

Because most of the 640 acres that make up the estate are agricultural fields, not all need to be included within the NRHP boundary that protects the property. Nevertheless, approximately 17 additional acres that were not included in the original nomination are devoted to an allee that extends approximately one-half mile from U. S. Route 50 up to the main house. Lining the allee on each side are tulip poplar trees many of which appear to date to the late eighteenth or early nineteenth century. Outside the rows of tulip poplars on each side is a second row of maple trees that date to the 1940s and are now more than 50 years of age. Although some of the original tulip poplars have been replaced; the design intent of the allee is readily apparent in those that remain. Pairs of brick gateposts are located at each end of the allee, further defining the allee's introduction to the mansion.

An allee was a feature of French formal architectural landscape design of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. It was a straight passageway between trees that was an extension of the view and often ended in a focal point, such as a garden structure--a temple or gazebo (Newton 1971:153-181, 199-202). Allees were popular features of gardens in colonial America, being part of the landscape design of some of the most prominent Tidewater plantations in Virginia and Maryland (Martin 1991:xxii, 119, 126). At one end, the allee at Bloomingtondale ends in the view of the mansion, a symmetrical Georgian-style building. Looking south from the house, the allee appears to extend into the distance. The allee was clearly a conscious design decision meant to enhance the landscape design and should be included within the boundaries of the property.

The revised boundaries will extend approximately one-half mile from the house to U. S. Route 50 and will include both rows of tulip poplar and maple trees lining each side of the allee and the paired gateposts at each end of the allee.

QA-4

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 2

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MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

Eligibility Recommended XX

Eligibility Not Recommended       

Comments:

Form needs to be amended, but property  
& addition to boundary continue to be eligible.

Reviewer, OPS:

D. J. Smith

Date:

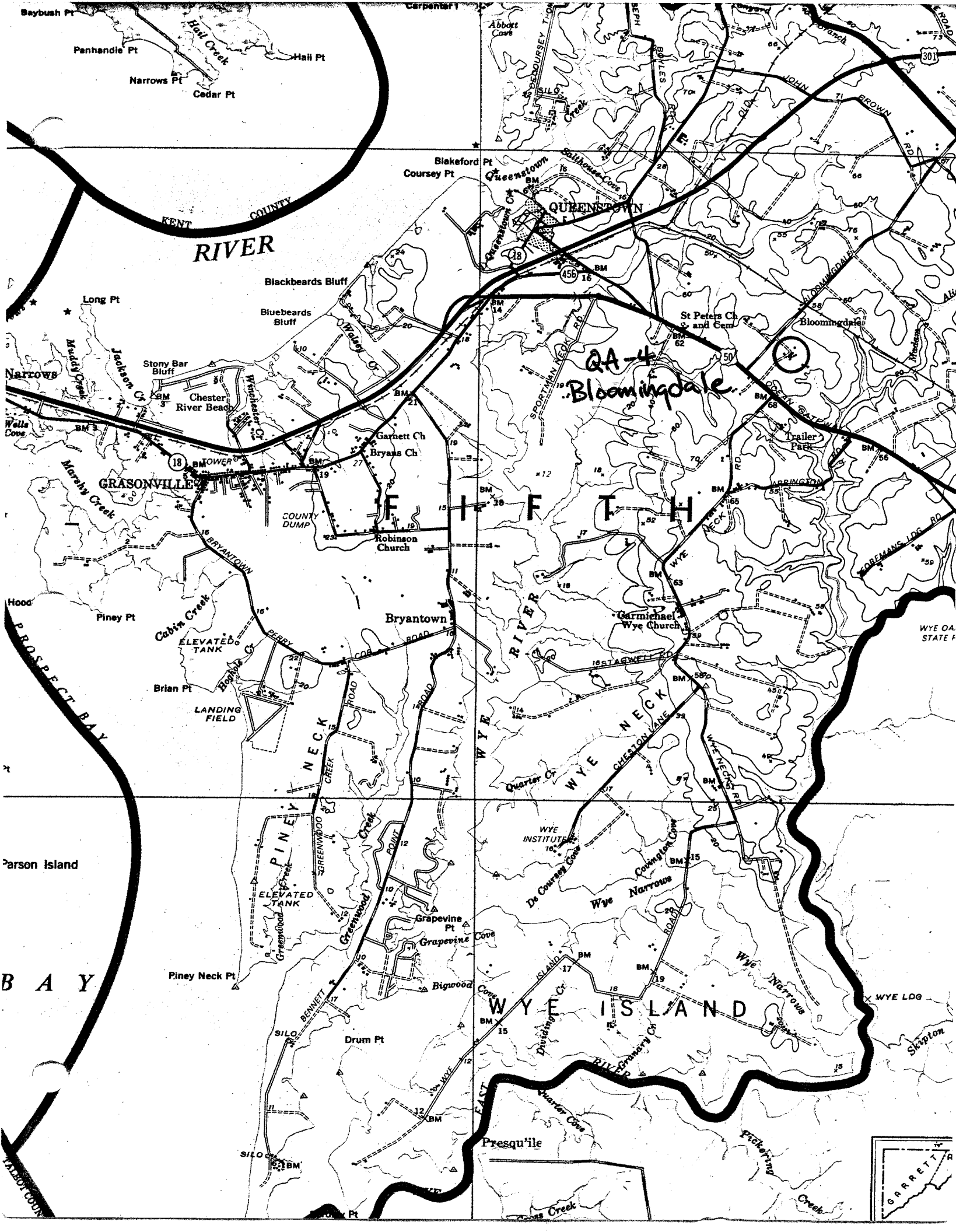
10/8/98

Reviewer, NR Program:

Philly

Date:

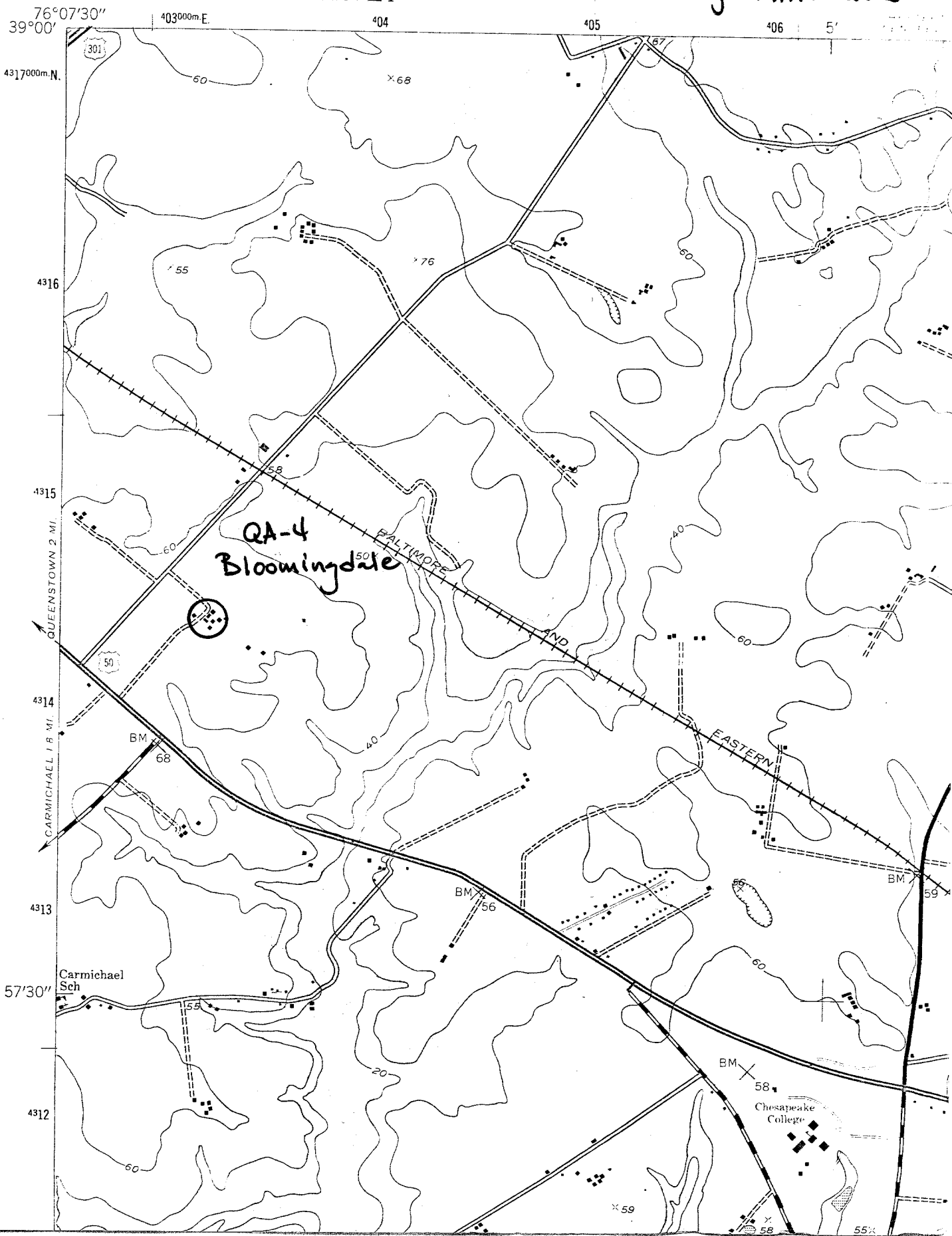
12/18/98



5762 II SW  
(LANGFORD CREEK)

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Wye Mills Quad

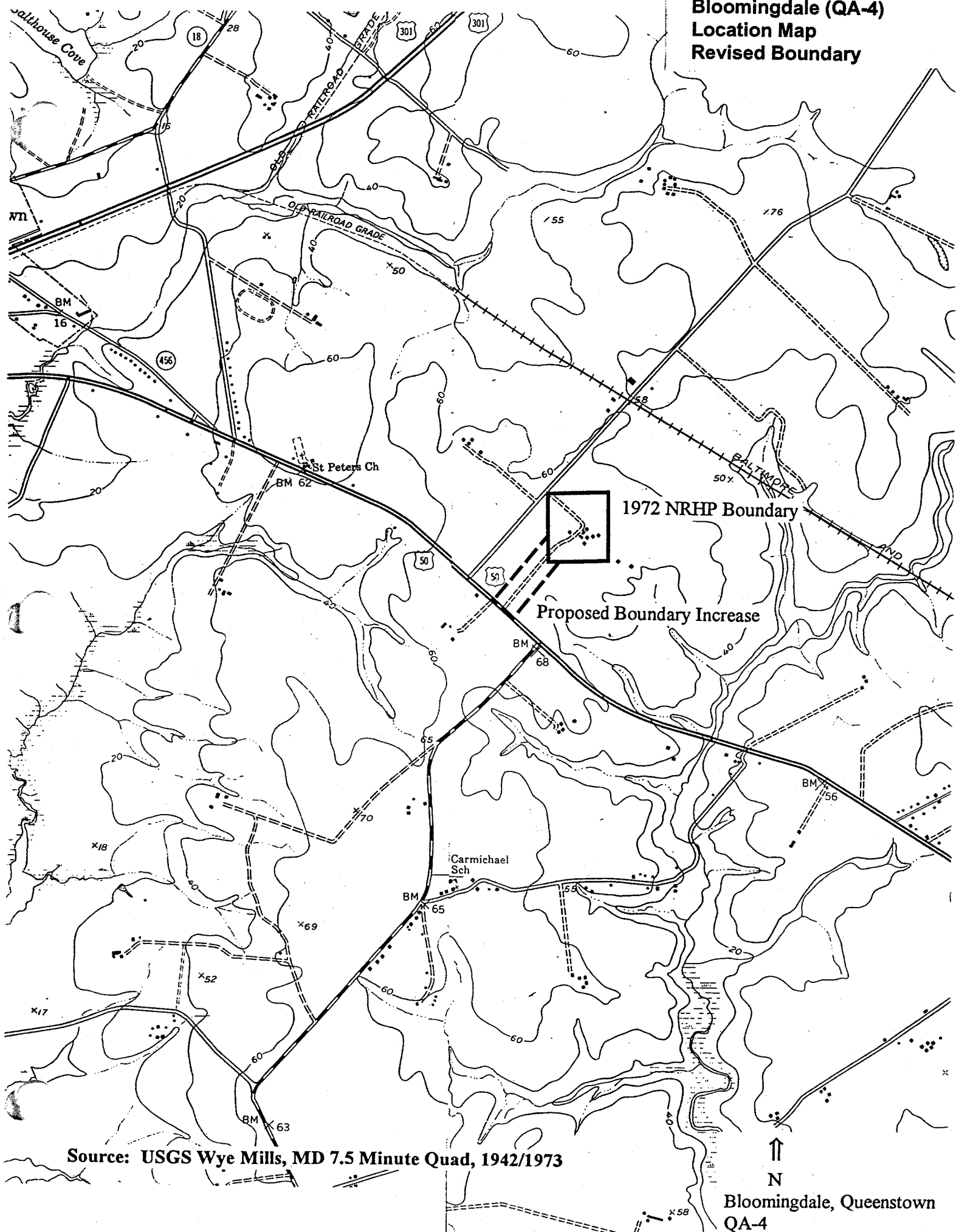






Source: Queen Anne County Atlas, 1877

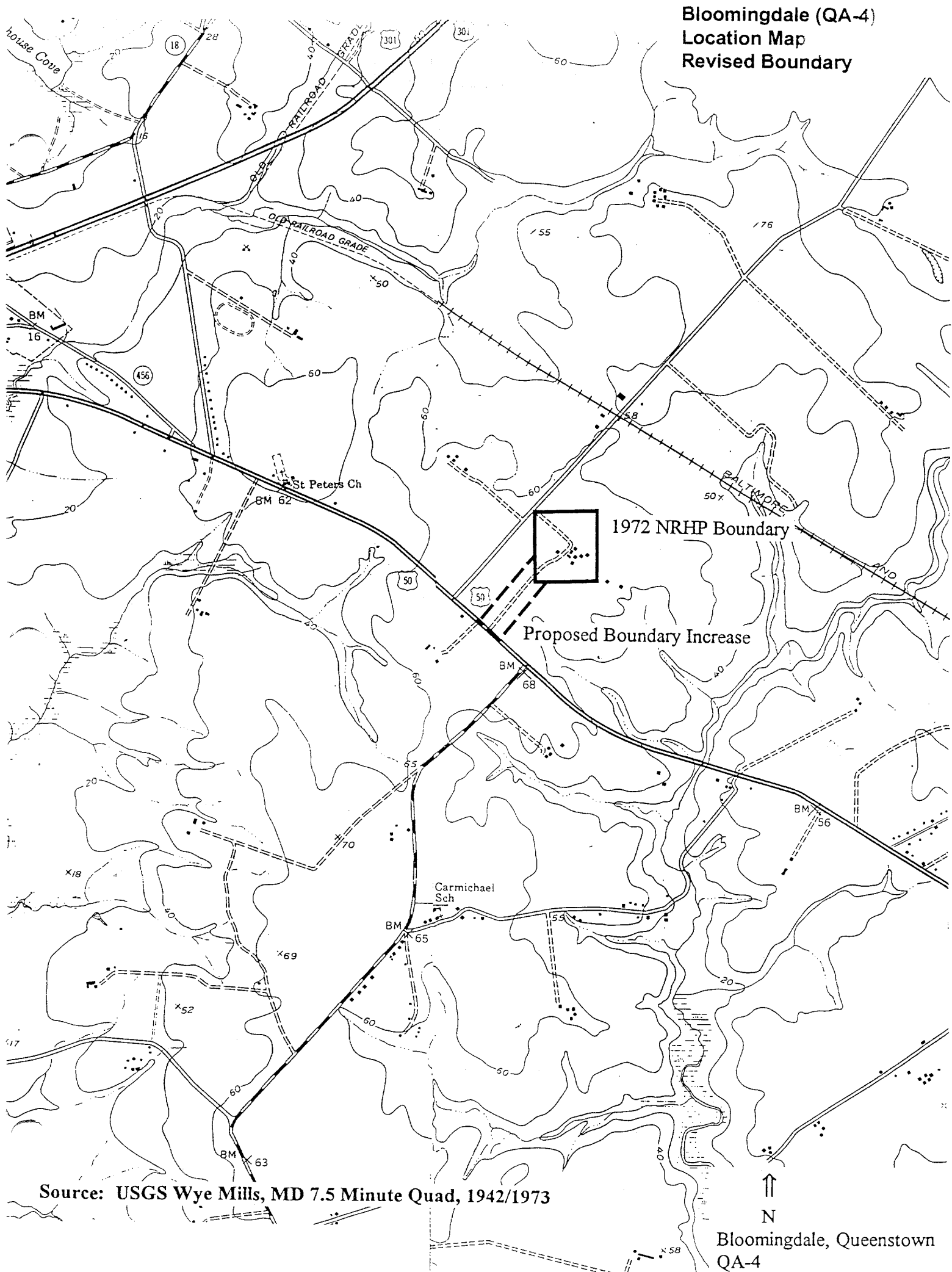
**Bloomington (QA-4)  
Location Map  
Revised Boundary**



**Source: USGS Wye Mills, MD 7.5 Minute Quad, 1942/1973**

**Bloomington, Queenstown  
QA-4**

Bloomingdale (QA-4)  
Location Map  
Revised Boundary



Source: USGS Wye Mills, MD 7.5 Minute Quad, 1942/1973

↑  
N  
Bloomingdale, Queenstown  
QA-4

QA-4  
Bloomingdale  
(Mount Mill)

Mary McCarthy  
Spring/Summer 2003  
Digital color photo on file at MHT



OA-4  
Bloomingdale

Mary McCarthy  
Spring/Summer 2003  
Digital color photo on file at MHT



QA-4  
Bloomington

Mary McCarthy  
Spring/Summer 2003  
Digital color photo on file at MHT





QA-4

Bloomingtondale

Queenstown vicinity

Michael Bourne, 1968

Main House from Southwest





QA-4

Bloomingtondale  
Queenstown vicinity  
Michael Bourne, Dec. 1969  
Rear facade



QA-4

Bloomington  
Queenstown vicinity  
Michael Bourne, Dec. 1969  
View of wing from South



QA-4

Bloomington  
Queenstown vicinity  
Michael Bourne, Dec. 1969  
View from Southeast



QA-4

Bloomingtondale

Queenstown vicinity

Michael Bourne, Dec. 1969

Detached kitchen





QA-4

Bloomingtondale

Queenstown vicinity

Michael Bourne, Dec. 1969

Meat House